

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/630,826

Examiner

Timothy J. Henn

Applicant(s)

SON, HYUK-SOO

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the communication filed 30 July 2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 9-13-09
- ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
- ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- ☐ Other _____


VIVEK SRIVASTAVA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600
Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20061210

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-9 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

[claims 1-8]

Regarding claims 1-8, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a data management method in which a new directory and representative voice file corresponding to the directory are created, a guide is reproduced for the user to record representative voice data, storing the representative voice data in the representative voice file, storing a user data file in the new directory, selectively displaying a representative data file of at least on the directories stored in a recording medium and reproducing a representative voice file corresponding to a directory of a representative data file selected by the user. While it is known in the prior art to store images with voice annotation data (e.g. Peng, US 6,774,939; Bell, US 5,784,525; Anderson, US 6,128,037), the prior art is limited to annotating individual images and not directories.

[claim 9]

Regarding claim 9, the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest a data management method in which an elapsed time between a current time and a time at which a data file was most recently produced is compared with a reference time, an inquiry message that asks a user whether to produce a new directory is output if the elapsed time is longer than the reference time and a new directory is created if a directory request signal is received from the user. While the prior art does teach

creating new directories at predetermined intervals or grouping data files according to times at which they were created (e.g. Anderson, US 6,169,575; Endo, US 6,965,403; Loui, US 6,606,411), the prior art does not teach comparing a time between file creation and outputting an inquiry message to a user asking whether to produce a new directory.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

i.	Killcommons et al.	US 2002/0184325
ii.	Yokokawa	US 2003/0063198
iii.	Okomoto et al.	US 2002/0172502
iv.	Um et al.	US 2003/0161617
v.	Ohmura et al.	US 2006/0114339
vi.	Takayama	US 6,970,192
vii.	Nagaoka et al.	US 2002/0080252
viii.	Morimoto et al.	US 7,084,916
ix.	Soga	US 6,192,002

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Timothy J. Henn whose telephone number is (571) 272-7310. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava can be reached on (571) 272-7304. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TJH
12/10/2006



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